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## PROCEEDINGS AND TRANSACTIONS.

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GENERAL MEETING, held at the Tholsel Rooms, Kilkenny, on  
Wednesday, May 2nd, 1855,

JAMES M. TIDMARSH, Esq., Mayor of Kilkenny,  
in the Chair.

Present, the following members :—

Rev. John Browne, LL.D.	C. Humphrey Prim, Esq.
Robert Cane, Esq., M. D.	John G. A. Prim, Hon. Sec.
John James, Esq., L.R.C.S.I.	James G. Robertson, Esq.

The following new members were elected :—

The Right Hon. Viscount Mountgarrett: proposed by Michael Cahill, Esq., J. P.

The Rev. A. Major, Ardpatick, Louth; and the Rev. Robert Loftus Tottenham, Donaghmoyne Glebe, Carrickmacross: proposed by the Rev. G. H. Reade.

Frederick Lincoln, Esq., 128, Blackfriars-road, London: proposed by William Barton, Esq.

Mrs. Russell, Bank Buildings, Youghal; the Very Rev. the Dean of Cloyne; the Rev. William E. Shaw, Kinsale-beg, Youghal; the Rev. Henry Swanzy, Newberry, Mallow; Jeremiah Hodnett, Esq., Town Clerk, Youghal; Henry Parker, Esq., Brown-street, Youghal; and Robert Baldwin, Esq., The College, Youghal: proposed by Edward Fitzgerald, Architect.

John O'Duffy, Esq., Dublin: proposed by Mr. John O'Daly.

Captain Stephen Sayer Mowle, Waterloo-terrace, Cork; Richard K. Exham, Esq., 7, South Mall, Cork; James Carnegie, Esq., Northesk, Cork; and John Shee, Esq., Northesk, Cork: proposed by Nicholas Peterson, Esq.

Francis E. Currey, Esq., Lismore Castle, Lismore; the Rev. Thomas P. Thirkill, M.A., Ardmore; the Rev. John Jebb Sargint, B.A., Ballyquin House, Ardmore; and the Rev. Arthur Travers Burroughs, A.B., Ardmore: proposed by the Rev. Samuel Hayman, A.M.

Daniel Humphries, Esq., Broomfield, Midleton: proposed by J. C. Kenny, Esq.

Benjamin Grubb, Esq., Gordon-street, Clonmel : proposed by Z. Johnson, Esq., M.D.

The Rev. John Frazer, A.B., Sraduffe, Parsonstown ; and William James Sidney, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Hardwicke-place, Dublin : proposed by T. L. Cooke, Esq.

The Rev. John T. Kyle, Rector of Clondrohid, Macroom : proposed by the Rev. John Browne, LL.D.

The following donations were received, and thanks ordered to be given to the donors :—

By the Cambrian Institute : “The Cambrian Journal,” Vol. I. and part 5, 1855.

By the Geological Society of Dublin : their “Journal,” Vol. VI. part 2.

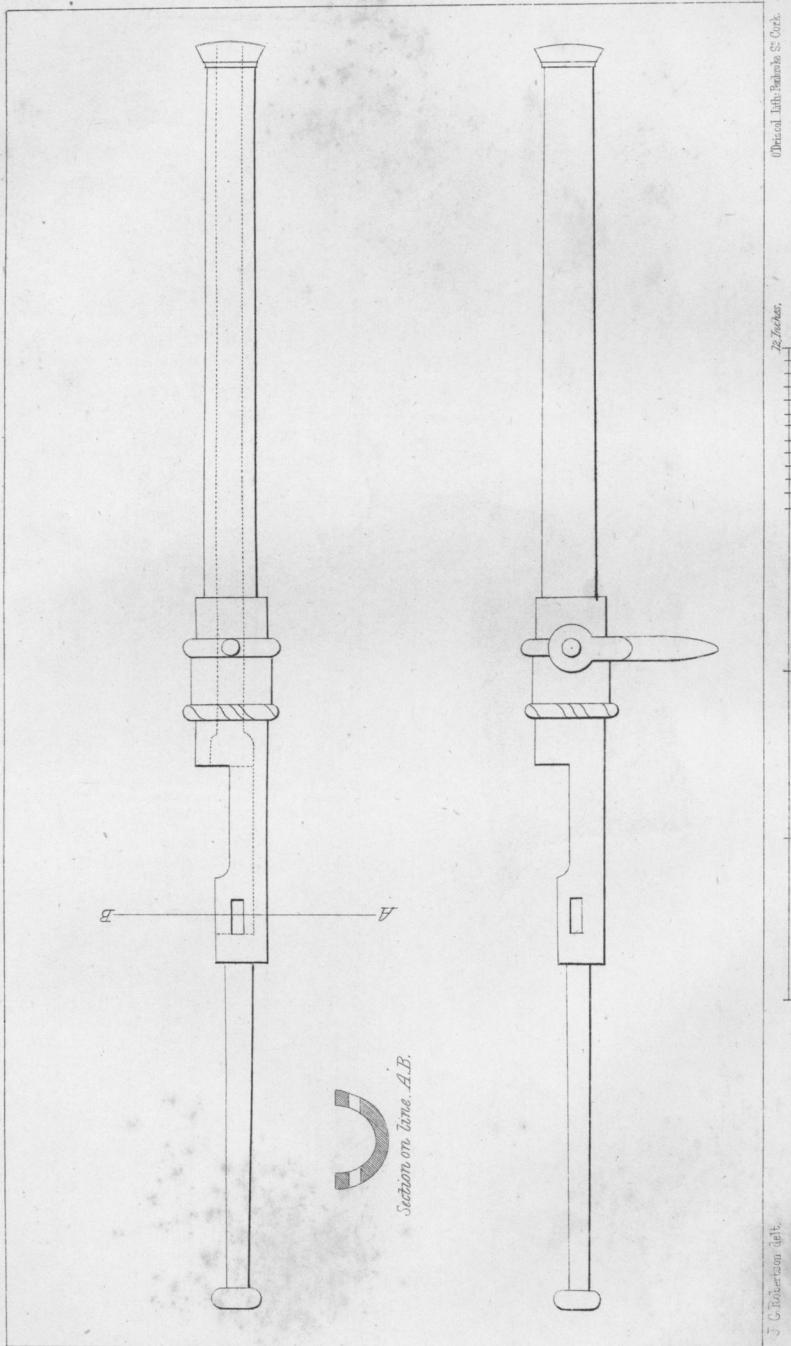
By the Publisher : “The Builder,” Nos. 631 to 637, inclusive.

By the Author : “A Descriptive Catalogue of Illustrations of the Fine Arts of Ancient Ireland, collected by Mr. Henry O’Neill, Author of the Work on the Ancient Crosses of Ireland, and serving to show, that a truly national and beautiful Style of Art existed in Ireland from a remote period till some time after the Anglo-Norman Invasion.”

By H. Wright, Esq., Cliff Cottage, Tramore : an etching of the crypt discovered under the Deanery House, Waterford.

By Mr. John G. A. Prim : a number of ancient coins, comprising specimens of the reigns of the Edwards, Henry VIII., Mary, Philip and Mary, Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., James II., William and Mary, and the Georges ; also local tradesmen’s tokens, jettons, &c.

By Henry P. Clarke, Esq. : a piece of ancient ordnance, which had been recently discovered in removing a portion of the banquette or earthen rampart of the ancient town wall of Kilkenny, immediately under the tower known as Talbot’s Castle, and within the grounds of the National Model School. This specimen of the wall-pieces of the times of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth seemed to be of the kind known to the old gunners as “a falcon,” which, according to Bailey’s English Dictionary, was a small piece of cannon, whose diameter at the bore was  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches, its length 6 feet, and weight 400 pounds ; its charge of powder was a pound and a quarter, the ball  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches diameter, and in weight 1 pound 5 ounces, and its point-blank shot 90 paces. The Kilkenny example was 5 feet 8 inches in length from breech to muzzle, with a handle of the length of 2 feet 1 inch projecting from the breech ; its bore was 2 inches, and it was loaded by means of a moveable chamber, which was now wanting. The gun was mounted swivel-wise, and bore a remarkable likeness to the wall-pieces still used by the native tribes of India to defend their forts. The present weight of the gun was 1 cwt. 5 stone ; it was of cast iron, and well executed. The peculiar construction and



ELEVATION AND SECTION OF A PIECE OF ANCIENT ORDNANCE.

FOUND AT KILKENNY.

Drilled with a  
Brass & Copper

22 inches.  
2  
3  
A.B.

J. G. Robertson delt.

appearance of this curious remain will be best understood from the accompanying plate. From the depth (four feet) at which it was discovered, this portion of the ancient armament of the walls of Kilkenny had evidently been designedly buried in the earth, probably on the surrender of the city to Cromwell in 1650. It seems likely that other similar remains might be discovered if a more extended search were practicable.

Mr. Clarke also presented three ancient tobacco pipes, of the class engraved by Mr. Fitzgerald (p. 304, *ante*).

The Rev. R. Hewson forwarded drawings of a sepulchral effigy carved in high relief, and existing in the old church of Dunfierth, near Enfield, county of Kildare, traditionally said to represent one of the Bermingham family. It represented a knight in complete plate armour; round the neck was suspended, by a chain, a large crucifix. At the south side of the altar-place of the same church Mr. Hewson found the following curious alliterative inscription :—

TERRAM TERRA TEGIT TERRAS ELIZA RELIQUIT  
PILSWORTHI CONJUX CHARA PUDICA PIA  
QUANDO QUATER DENOS BIS BINOS VIXERAT ANNOS  
CONCESSIT FATIS CELICA REGNA PETENS  
OBIIIT 31 DECEMBRIS 1613  
ÆTATIS SUÆ 44.

The following communication, forwarded by Mr. Hitchcock, was then read :—

“ There are in the remote and uncultivated parts of Ireland numerous ancient circles, each consisting of a ring of standing blocks of stone, and averaging in diameter from fifteen to thirty feet. Antiquaries, I believe, are generally of opinion that these circles, commonly known as Druidic temples, and found in almost every Celtic country, were used for worship only, or perhaps occasionally as places of assembly. The following cutting, from the ‘Perthshire Advertiser’ of April 12, 1855, the account given in which I look upon as very curious, would seem to show that such circles were also used for sepulchral purposes, and may be worth preserving in the pages of the ‘Transactions of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society.’ ”

**‘REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.—**About a fortnight ago, as some individuals were clearing and trenching a piece of waste ground for a garden at Tynrich, a small Druidical circle, close upon the highway, was disclosed to the gaze of the stranger by the removal of masses of broom and bramble that had hitherto concealed it. This olden temple—if temple it were—is about 18 feet in diameter, and quite entire, each of its huge stones standing erect and in its proper place; but there is an additional interest attached to it from the fact, that, while digging and levelling the interior, four huge urns, about two feet in height and a foot in diameter at the mouth, were exhumed, quite full of calcined bones, besides three or four stone coffins, formed of thin, unshapen slabs, evidently from the adjacent ground, and likewise containing the mortal remains of the ancient Caledonians of a pre-

historic period. Unfortunately, either from the extreme brittleness of the urns, or a want of care on the part of the labourers, the whole were broken to pieces; but at the time we visited the place, enough still remained to show that they were of the very coarsest manufacture, in shape remote from classical, and with no pretension to decoration but a profusion of scratchings, without method, on the outside of the upper portion of each. The coffins were equally unceremoniously dealt with; but it is worthy of remark, that they lay in no particular order in reference to the compass, but, if anything, rather inclined to south and north—indeed, one of them lay exactly in that direction. The general notion is, that Druidical circles were temples, and nothing else; but the trenching of this one shows that they were also used as burying-places, like churches in present times, for great men—probably the higher orders of the priesthood.' I may remark, that the diameter of the Scotch circle, above given, is nearly that of most of those primitive structures which I have seen in our own country, in many of which, on the brown moor, and in the remote green valley, I have frequently, when on my antiquarian journeys, sat to rest myself, and to indulge in a thought on their probable uses.

"It may be necessary to distinguish the circles of which I write from those which Worsaae ('Primeval Antiquities,' p. 82) calls 'small circular cromlechs' (*Runddysser*), and from those noticed by our own eminent antiquary, Dr. Petrie, in the 'Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy,' vol. i. pp. 140-2, each consisting of a range of stones, sometimes of two concentric ranges, surrounding a chamber formed of larger stones placed one upon the other, in which have been found the usual sepulchral remains—urns, bones, implements, &c., which, of course, at once settles their use. The circles to which I wish to point attention, and of which that at Tynrich, above described, seems to be a good specimen, the sepulchral remains excepted, are merely circles, and nothing more, the interior being always level and empty. I may observe, that the Irish word for such a circle is *cuirpt*, and the meaning of this, as given by O'Brien and O'Reilly, is, *a court or palace*.<sup>1</sup> Several very fine examples of this circle occur in the neighbourhood of Kenmare and Killarney, and in other parts of the south of Ireland, where the blocks of stone composing the circles, supposing them to have been used as places of judgment or assembly, must have been well enough adapted for seats in the rude ages to which they belong. Mr. Worsaae inclines to a different

<sup>1</sup> In the neighbourhood of Minard, in the county of Kerry, there are, or were a few years ago, two or three perfect stone circles; and in the same locality there is a remarkable mass of natural rock, well known there by the name of *Carrig-na-coortha* (the rock of the court), and from which, it is said, the adjoining parish of Ballynacourty derives its name. I merely mention this as a curious circumstance in connexion with the circles. Whether ancient Irish Brehons ever held their courts of justice on this rock, or in the neighbouring stone circles, are questions on which I shall

not attempt to enter. Between the villages of Ballyferriter and Teeravane, to the west of Dingle, in the same county, I have also seen, in August, 1848, two small stone circles, the one measuring  $9\frac{1}{4}$  feet, and the other only 5 feet in diameter, and in their immediate vicinity a beautiful spring well. Now we well know in what veneration springs were held by the old Pagan priesthood, and the occurrence of one here, in company with two stone circles, together with their very small size, are facts which, viewing the circles as burying-places, appear somewhat remarkable.

opinion, and says that the stones forming the circles ‘could never have afforded suitable seats,’ but he is writing of his ‘circular cromlechs,’ the only apparent use of the surrounding stones of which being to enclose the sacred spot from profanation. I do not, of course, presume to say for what uses the Irish stone circles—simple stone circles—first described, may have been formed; but I am convinced, from the number of them I have seen and examined, in none of which have I ever found a cromlech, that they were not intended for sepulchral purposes. I hope that some of our members, better qualified than myself, may, ere long, be induced to turn their attention to the subject, and enlighten us with their opinions on it.

“I have been favoured by the Rev. Dr. Hannah, Warden of Trinity College, Glenalmond, with the following interesting correspondence, relative to the Tynrich circle:—

“‘Dunkeld, May 14, 1855.

“‘DEAR SIR,—In answer to Mr. Hitchcock’s letter, I send to you the enclosed sketch and description of the Druidic circle at Tynrich. The writer describes the present appearance exactly; and as he was present at the digging up, I have thought it best to get him to describe the whole thing from the first. I hope it may be satisfactory to Mr. Hitchcock. I enclose all to you to forward to him.

“‘Believe me,

“‘Yours very faithfully,

“‘J. MACMILLAN.

“‘Rev. Dr. Hannah.’

“‘Tynrich,<sup>1</sup> 12th May, 1855.

“‘REV. SIR,—In reply to your inquiries regarding the Druidical circle at this place, noticed in the “Perthshire Advertiser” recently, I have now to inform you that the stones are quite close to the turnpike road; they are six in number, and quite regularly placed; the figure they form is elliptical, its greatest diameter, due north and south, being about 27 feet, and the lesser diameter 22 feet; the height of the large stone in the south of the figure is about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the surface, that of the others varies from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 feet. The stones are the common hill flags peculiar to the district, and they appear to have been placed with the narrowest or most pointed end downwards. Until recently the stones were not so conspicuous as they now are, the ground surrounding them having this spring been levelled, and otherwise made suitable for a garden or nursery. In the process of levelling the workmen had occasion to dig or trench the earth in the inside of the circle, in doing which they occasionally turned up wood charcoal, or cinders, generally mixed with the remains of burnt bones; in some instances the bones appeared to have been placed in the ground enclosed in rude clay urns, fragments of which were found along with the bones. In one instance an urn was found whole, with the exception of a small hole made with the spade in the top of it when first touched; the sand was carefully removed from about it to the bottom, but when attempted to be raised

<sup>1</sup> North of Perth twenty-four miles, and of Dunkeld nine miles, at the junction of the rivers Tay and Tummel, on

the great Highland road from Perth to Inverness, &c.—J. M.M. See Black’s County Atlas of Scotland.

the material of which it was formed crumbled down to pieces. The outside of the vessels was of a clay colour, and appeared to be only sun-dried, while the inside was black, and as if exposed to the action of fire. The bones were almost of the whiteness of chalk. The soil in the place is a light sand, but inside the circle the sand was of a dark brown colour, such as it would assume if saturated with blood. There were no stone coffins found, as represented in the "Advertiser;" there were one or two pieces of flat stones found in the circle, but from the positions occupied by them it did not seem as if they had been intended to enclose or preserve the bones. The rude sketch on the other side exhibits the position occupied by the stones [forming the circle]; it is drawn to a scale of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch to a foot.

" I am, Rev. Sir,

" Your obedient servant,

" JOHN M<sup>c</sup>GREGOR.

" *Rev. J. MacMillan, Dunkeld.*

" I have only to add, that the sketch alluded to, which Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Gregor has very neatly executed, represents the six stones forming the ring (a small number for the size) as placed at nearly equal distances from each other, with no trace of anything in the centre; and that the account given seems further to show that such stone circles were not constructed solely for sepulchral purposes."

The Secretary, by permission of Captain George P. Helsham, Kilkenny Fusiliers, to whom it had descended through his maternal ancestors, the Blunt family, exhibited a document of much interest, as connected with a well-known event in the career of one of Ireland's most famous orators and patriots, Harry Flood. It was a bail-bond taken for his appearance to stand his trial for shooting James Agar, one of the Clifden family, in a duel at the Triangle field of Dunmore, near the city of Kilkenny, in the year 1769 ; and it was also curious as exhibiting the manner in which in those days the law was wrested by its officers to screen the duellist, the successful belligerent being only accused of manslaughter in his own defence, whilst the testimony of the seconds was taken as if they had been but casual observers of an attack made on the life of one of the principals. The following is a copy of the document :—

" *County of the City of } Before two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace  
Kilkenny to wit. } of said City.*

" Henry Flood of Farmlay, in the County of Kilkenny, Esq<sup>r</sup>, acknowledgeth himself to be in-debted to our Sovereign Lord the KING in the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds Ster<sup>g</sup>. } £10,000

" John Flood of Flood Hall, and Charles Flood of Ballymack, both in the s<sup>d</sup> County of Kilkenny, Esq<sup>r</sup>, severally acknowledge themselves to be in-debted to our said Lord the KING in the Sum of Five Thousand Pounds Ster<sup>g</sup> each. } 5,000 & 5,000

" WHEREAS, it appears by an Inquisition taken before William Hartt and Parr Kingsmill, Esq<sup>rs</sup>, Coroners of the s<sup>d</sup> City, that on Fryday, the twenty-fifth day of August instant, James Agar, of Ringwood, in the County of Kilkenny, Esq<sup>r</sup>, received his Death by a wound over his left Breast, which went quite thro' his Body, and which wound was given by Pistol Ball, as the Jurors on s<sup>d</sup> Inquest believe, and as appears by the Examinations of Richard Rothe & Gervaise Parker Bushe, Esq<sup>rs</sup>, in the s<sup>d</sup> Coroners Hands. AND WHEREAS, by the s<sup>d</sup> Examinations of the s<sup>d</sup> Richard Rothe and Gervaise Parker Bushe, Esq<sup>rs</sup>, referred to by the s<sup>d</sup> Inquest, it appears that the said James Agar, deceased, & the above bound Henry Flood, were on s<sup>d</sup> Fryday, the twenty-fifth day of August instant, about two o'Clock in the Afternoon, seen by them the s<sup>d</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Rothe & Gervaise Parker Bushe in a Park or Field of Dunmore, in the Liberties of said City, standing about twelve yards or upwards from each other, each with a Pistol in his hand, & that s<sup>d</sup> James Agar fired at s<sup>d</sup> Henry Flood, and took up a second Pistol with Intent as s<sup>d</sup> Exam<sup>ts</sup> believe, to fire at s<sup>d</sup> Henry Flood, & sayd to s<sup>d</sup> Henry Flood, 'fire you Scoundrel,' and that s<sup>d</sup> Henry Flood did accordingly fire and wounded the said James Agar over the left Breast, of which wound he fell to the ground, and in the space of five minutes, or thereabouts, expired. By which said recited Inquest and Examinations the s<sup>d</sup> Henry Flood stands charged with the Killing of the said James Agar, on the Day and at the Place aforesaid, in Defence of the Life of him the said Henry Flood, which the s<sup>d</sup> James Agar had attempted, and was again prepared and about to attempt in manner as in s<sup>d</sup> recited Examinations, & herein before is set forth.

" Now the Condition of the forgoing several Obligations is such, that if he, the said Henry Flood, shall and will personally be and appear at the next General Assizes or Commission of Oyer and Terminer, to be held in & for the County of the said City, and then and there take and abide his Tryal according to Law for the charge aforesaid, and for all and every such other Charges, matters, & Things, as shall or may be made, or objected against him on his Ma'tys Behalf, respecting the Premises, then the s<sup>d</sup> several Obligations to be void & of no Effect, otherwise the same to stand and remain in full force & virtue in Law.

" Taken and acknowledged before us at the City of Kilkenny, the First Day of September, 1769. ANTHO: BLUNT. ANTHO: BLUNT.	} " HENRY FLOOD. [seal.] } " JOHN FLOOD. [seal.] } " CH. FLOOD." [seal.]
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Mr. Fitzgerald, Local Secretary for Youghal, sent the following communication :—

" In the 'Transactions' of the Society for November, 1854, the old Irish inscriptions at Lismore were illustrated, and translations and notes of them by Dr. O'Donovan given. In the absence of sufficient data, the Doctor said, 'I have not been able fully to fix the periods of these persons, but take them to date from about 900 to 985.' A few records raked up since then from our old Irish annalists may be interesting, as affording good reason to place three of their dates about a hundred years earlier than was

supposed. We have in the Annals of Ulster ('Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores Veteres'), pp. 222-3:—'An. DCCCLV. Suibne nepos Roichlich<sup>1</sup> Scriba, et Ancorita, Abbas Lismoer, Cormac Lathraigh Briuin [Cormac rex dimidii Briuniorum] Scriba, et Episcopus, in pace dormierunt;' i. e. Anno 855, Suibne, the grandson of Roichlich, scribe and anchorite, Abbot of Lismore, [and] Cormac, King of half the Briunii,<sup>2</sup> died. Now we have still at Lismore an old Irish inscription, as shown at p. 200, *ante*, of *Suibne m̄ Conhuidip*, i. e. Suibne, son of Cu-odhir; and we have also at Lismore an inscription, as given by Dean Cotton at p. 223, of OR. OO. COR-MAC; i. e. a prayer for Cormac. I can see no reasonable objection why we should not identify these records with the inscriptions. Another Cormac is mentioned in the Annals of Innisfallen, p. 36:—'An. DCCCCVI. Kl. Mapt̄a Copmc meic Culenain Epp. ⁊ Seasn̄ Líppmoir, ⁊ Abb. Cille Molaisse, ⁊ pi na n Oeppe, ⁊ cend ath chomairc Mumham olchena; la hu Pothaio paiched.'—Martirium Cormaci filii Culenani Episcopi et Aeditui Lissmorensis, et Abbatis Ecclesiae Molassii, et Regis Desiorum, et supremi Præpositi operum misericordia Momoniæ similiter, per Fothadios occisi;' i. e. Anno 906, the martyrdom of Cormac, son of Culenan, Bishop and high priest of Lismore, and Abbot of the church of Molaisse, and King of the Deisi, and likewise chief head of the works of mercy in Munster, slain by the Fothads. But the former seems to be the more likely person. A foot note at p. 36, Annals of Innisfallen, says:—'Non est confundendus cum alio Cormaco filio Culenani, Rege Momoniæ, occiso anno 908, ut supra, p. 35, not. 1.—De hoc Cormaco agunt Annales Ulton. ad ann. 919, æræ com. 920;' i. e. he is not to be confounded with another Cormac, son of Culenan, King of Munster, slain in the year 908, as before, in p. 35, note 1; of this Cormac the Annals of Ulster tell, at the year 919, common era 920. Then we have, in the Annals of the Four Masters, pp. 384-5 (O'Connor, vol. iii.):—'878. Maptan ua Roichligh Abb. Lípmoir ... becc; i. e. 878, Martan O'Roichligh, Abbot of Lismore, died. And we have a stone still at Lismore, as at p. 200, *ante*, with benacht pop an mptan; i. e. a blessing on the soul of Martin.

"That Conhuidir was a name of long standing at Lismore, we have a proof from the Annals of Innisfallen, p. 18:—'An. DCXCVI. Kl. Conodur Lismoir quievit,' i. e. Anno 696, Conodur, of Lismore, rested.

"Probably some other member may poke out the dates of Colȝen and Donnchad, in their antiquarian grubblings, as there is little doubt they were *all* important personages.

"Archdeacon Cotton did well in bringing us to the original finder (himself) of these beautiful inscriptions, as there is nothing like getting at the fountain head (see p. 222). That the stones were found in excavating for the foundations of the tower, I was credibly informed by a most respectable authority. It is pleasing also, that the inaccuracy of the first lithograph is shifted to the right shoulders—the 'clerk of the church'; pity it was not to the church-wardens, they are invariably such terrible delinquenst.

<sup>1</sup> We have here, Roichlich, his grandfather's name, and on the stone Conhuidir is given as his father's name.

<sup>2</sup> The Briunii—who were they? This is a question worth the attention of archaeologists.

"The two smaller stones, being reddish river pebbles, afford no conclusive reason why they may not be lime-stone, as we have many good specimens of reddish lime-stone in this district, some of which, when polished, look nearly as well as Sienna marble."

Mr. John G. A. Prim begged leave to lay before the Meeting a document which was calculated to be of much local interest, from the vivid glimpse which it afforded of the state of the county and city of Kilkenny a hundred years ago, when the gentry and their servants discharged the duties of a constabulary force, and when, if felons of a higher class in society than common were confined in the gaol in the heart of the city, a military guard was deemed expedient for their safe custody, and a special watch was found necessary to patrol the streets at night. But this was not the only interest attaching to the document, for it served also to prove that one of the most generally received local traditions of the last century, the most circumstantial and consistent in all its details, and, therefore, gaining the most implicit credence from the present and two last generations, was, in its most important parts, altogether without foundation, and in reality rested on a very slight substratum of fact. There was no native of Kilkenny who had not heard of "the murder of the Lovetts," and had not, from childhood, regarded with feelings of awe and curiosity the site of that supposed tragedy at Purcell's Inch, on the river Nore, opposite Archer's Grove, a mile below Kilkenny. The tale, as it was told, was this. In the middle of the last century a gentleman and lady named Lovett resided at the house of Purcell's Inch, originally an old castle which had belonged to the family of Purcell of Ballyfoyle. Mr. and Mrs. Lovett had two daughters residing with them, and were known to be in very opulent circumstances. The county was at that time very much disturbed by a party of banditti, known as Doran's gang, who were most daring in their robberies, and most cruel in the mode of committing those offences, whilst it was rumoured that they were not only patronized and supported, but were actually led on in the commission of their depredations, by persons of a superior position in society. On a certain night—so ran the tale—Doran's gang attacked and broke into the Inch House, and at once murdered Mr. and Mrs. Lovett, with such of the servants as joined them in making resistance. They then seized the younger daughter, and, placing her on the fire, compelled her by the most horrible tortures to tell where the plate and money were concealed. Having thus obtained the plunder which they sought, they put the girl to death, and went away, supposing that they had left no one who could identify them and give evidence as to the perpetrators of the bloody deed. However, Mr. Lovett's eldest daughter slept in a small chamber in the thickness of the wall, which was separated from the parlour only by a panelled wainscoting, similar to that which

lined the walls, and, therefore, was not observable to persons unacquainted with the premises. Through a chink in the wood-work, Miss Lovett beheld the whole of the fearful tragedy, and had strength to listen to the groans of her parents and the shrieks of her sister, without betraying her presence, or making known her place of concealment. From the information which she was able to give as to the appearance of the murderers, several of the gang were arrested, and amongst them two young men of family and station, but who had led very wild and dissipated lives, named Davis. On the trial at the ensuing assizes, Miss Lovett identified fully all the parties in the dock, except one of those brothers; but having looked dubiously at him for a moment, she suddenly exclaimed—"he is one of them too, for that waistcoat which he wears is made of my mother's petticoat." The garment was accordingly taken off the prisoner, and submitted to a fuller inspection by the lady, when she immediately identified it by a darn, which she remembered from the circumstance that, when repairing the petticoat for her mother, she had remarked how curious it was that the darn had actually formed the initials of her own name, E. L. There was a further confirmation of the evidence of this lady given by a man who had gone at an early hour of the morning of the murder to water his horses at the stream which crosses the John's-well road, near the Pococke Institution, and who there saw the prisoners trying to wash the blood from their clothes. The prisoners were executed for the crime, and in the old house of Inch (which has been within the last thirty years thrown down) the blood stains of the unfortunate Lovetts were shown to all visitors by the subsequent inhabitants. There were at this day many people living who had often looked with horror at those supposed records of the dreadful deed of violence which was believed to have been perpetrated in that lonely mansion. All this was, as would be seen, most circumstantial, and there could be no surprise felt that a story so told by people who lived in the next generation after, and by them sent down to their children, should be fully credited. But it so happened that the document now laid before the Meeting showed plainly that, although there had been a robbery at the old house of Inch, there had been no murder at all! The document was the copy of a letter from William Colles, at that time—exactly one hundred years ago—Mayor of Kilkenny, to Sir William Evans Morris, then Member of Parliament for Kilkenny, at Dublin, and the Society was indebted for the copy to Mr. A. Colles, Millmount, the great grandson of the writer :—

“ *Kilkenny, Nov<sup>r</sup> 25, 1755.* ”

“ D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>,—I Rec<sup>d</sup> y<sup>r</sup> ffav<sup>r</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> 18 Inst : and as to the Nore, as nothing is Wanting but the Royall Consent, I shall not Trouble you further about It 'till It Returns with That, of which I make no doubt. As to the

Rogues In Gaol, The Case stands Thus. Patrick Glindon and Luke Bow were Taken In Mountrath and Carry'd before Mr. Despard the 7<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>, as I am Informed : in whose Hands the Plate found with them ; the Information of the Pedlar who Discovered them ; & the first Examination of s<sup>d</sup> Glindon & Bow are, I Presume, Lodged ; on the Warrant of Mr. Despard, grounded on y<sup>e</sup> Confession of Glindon, James Davis, and Charles Davis, were Taken the 11<sup>th</sup>, by the Gentlemen of y<sup>e</sup> Queen's County who Pursued them Hither : Who were carry'd before George Hely, Esq<sup>r</sup>, who Committed them on said M<sup>r</sup> Despard's Warrant : and Patrick Bergin was the same Day Taken by M<sup>r</sup> Jonah Wheeler, & his servants, & M<sup>r</sup> John. . . . . Bergin was also Committed by M<sup>r</sup> Hely on s<sup>d</sup> warrant. M<sup>r</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup> fford who Came here to Take y<sup>e</sup> Davis's, &c. went Back to Maryborough & Took a ffurther Information from Glindon on y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>, which he Remitted me : and a Copy of which I send you, wherein Glindon mentions the Davis's having got the Handle of a Sword of M<sup>r</sup> Lovetts, and a Dimitty Petticoat. On My Receiving this Examination I found out the Taylor who had wrought for the Davis's and he without Hesitation gave me his Examination : a Copy of w<sup>ch</sup> I Inclose you : the Dimitty I Took Into my Custody : and In order to be Certain whether M<sup>r</sup> or M<sup>rs</sup> Lovett, or any of their ffamily can sware to the Dimitty, I signed my name on the most Remarkable Pieces of It, and gave them to M<sup>r</sup> Jonah Wheeler's wife, who is gon to Dublin, and will shew them to M<sup>rs</sup> Lovett and her ffamily : from whom you will have an oportunity to Enquire whether they know It or not, and if so please to Take Examinations and Bind them to Prosecute. After this Dimitty was found with the Taylor, and his Examination Taken, and a Recognizance for his appearance, M<sup>r</sup> Hugh Warring went to y<sup>e</sup> Goal & Examined the Two Davis's & Bergin, a Copy of whose Examinations I alsoe send you : after this I sent again & searched M<sup>rs</sup> Davis's House for y<sup>e</sup> knives, and a Piece of a Sword : No knives were found : but a Wastcoat of the same Dimitty was, and the Hilt of a Sword which I have now In my Possession, but whether this be Mr. Lovett's sword or not, I know not, & wish you would get from Lovett as p'ticular Description of his Sword as he Can give, before he sees this: there is abt 7 Inches of the Blade to the Hilt, and It is Remarkable : there was alsoe found In Davis's House some fine Damask Table Linnen marked D: C; but I do not find this Chalenged by Any body: I got alsoe with the Taylor an old Scarlet Wastcoat : left him by James Davis ; on M<sup>r</sup> Warrings Examining the 2 Davis's In Goal they were several Times asked whether they had left any thing Else with the Taylor besides y<sup>e</sup> Pettycoat, and both said they had not, which makes me suspect y<sup>e</sup> Wastcoat to be stole. Examine M<sup>r</sup> Lovett & his servants alsoe about This Wastcoat: on a Verbale Information Given by Glindon to M<sup>r</sup> Jonah Wheeler he searched the Thatch of Some Houses at New Orchard, and found some Linnen In 3 severall Places, which appears to be part of M<sup>r</sup> Cuffes Robery : and he alsoe found, or somehow got one of M<sup>r</sup> Lovett's Pistolls. The Best Information I could get abt this I send you : Glindon alsoe gave Information that he sold some of M<sup>r</sup> Cuffe's plate to one Egan a Shopkeeper, at Balyboy, In the King's County : on w<sup>ch</sup> some of y<sup>e</sup> Queen's County Gentlemen & M<sup>r</sup> Jo. Gale went to Balyboy and took Egan, who immediately Confessed y<sup>e</sup> Buying y<sup>e</sup> plate & gave it to them, being 5 pound  $\frac{1}{2}$  Averdupois weight. They Brought Egan Hither, he Having given

them an Account that one Loughlin Kelly, formerly a Pedlar, & then a Labourer, Vouched to him for y<sup>e</sup> Honesty of y<sup>e</sup> plate. This Loghlin Kelly I had Immediately Taken, and he is now In y<sup>e</sup> County Goal, on y<sup>e</sup> Information of Egan, Taken before George Hely : Richard Ryly, Watch Maker, was accused by Bow in some Examination of his, as I was Told, of Receiving & Washing up some of Mr Lovett's Plate, on w<sup>ch</sup> I had him Taken & Examined, as alsoe W<sup>m</sup> Ryly his ffather, and James Smyth their Journey man : but as no Examinations on Oath appeared ag<sup>t</sup> Him, on his giving a Recog-nizance for his appearance at y<sup>e</sup> Assizes to Ald<sup>n</sup> Jo. Blunt he is Enlarged ; a Copy of s<sup>d</sup> Examinations I send you. This Is all that has yet Come to Light. In my private Opinion It is yet too soon to send Down a Co-mission ; as I believe before the Assizes Much more will Come to Light. I see nothing yet but the Evidence of Glindon, that Touches y<sup>e</sup> Davis's or Bergin, if M<sup>r</sup> Lovett do's not own y<sup>e</sup> Petticoat: and If she do's, It only affects James Davis. I have, according to y<sup>r</sup> Desire, sent you up Copyps of all the Informations & Examinations In my Hands, and in M<sup>r</sup> Hely's, numbered on y<sup>e</sup> Backs from one to 13, on which the Goverment will be Best Judges how to proceed ; One ffarrell is since Taken on Glindon's Information & sent to Maryborough: would not an order from the Goverment for such a Guard of y<sup>e</sup> army on y<sup>e</sup> County Goal as y<sup>e</sup> Sherrife of y<sup>e</sup> County should Demand be proper ; I have Established a Watch of 16 men & a Constable Ever since the first of this Month, which has Kept the Towne very Quiet.

“ I am,  
“ D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>, y<sup>r</sup> Most obed<sup>t</sup>,  
“ Hum<sup>le</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>,  
“ WILLIAM COLLES.

“ To S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Evans Moress, Esq  
“ In Dublin.”

This letter showed clearly that there had been no murder whatever, although the prisoners had been executed for burglary. The Lovetts appeared to have been in Dublin when the robbery was committed, and it was clear that the lady did not see them from behind the wainscot, or Mr. Colles would not have said there was no evidence against them but that of the tailor. Miss Lovett probably did identify the waistcoat, made from her mother's petticoat, and therein lay the very slight foundation for the romantic portion of the tradition. The man watering his horses had, perhaps, seen the robbers washing their faces, which they might have had blackened according to a common custom of highwaymen at the time ; and as for the stains on the floor of the house of Inch, they were much more apocryphal even than the marks declared to be the blood of Rizzio at Holyrood, for there was every reason to believe that the hapless royal favourite lost his life on the occasion, although, perhaps, not within the precinct of the palace. They could not avoid drawing a moral from the discovery of the baselessness of this tradition, which could scarcely fail to act as a caution to too credulous archaeologists ; for if a very ordinary occurrence could, in the space of a single century, be converted by the

voice of tradition into such a very romantic event, implicitly believed as a fact which no one could dream of gainsaying, what amount of reliance was to be placed on the legends of the middle ages, or of periods still farther remote?

Mr. R. Caulfield, Cork, sent the following copy of a document, the original of which, he stated, he found amongst a parcel of loose papers in a portfolio purchased for Dr. Neligan, at the sale of the late Sir W. Betham's library. It bore the signature of Thomas, the tenth Earl of Ormonde, then general in command of Queen Elizabeth's Irish army, and was curious as showing the kind of commission received by the captain of a company at that period:—

“ BY THE L. LIEUTENAUNT GEN<sup>J</sup>ALL.

“ John lisston, althouge I have not hearde from yo<sup>u</sup> since my Comynge over the Barrowe, yo<sup>u</sup> shall fynd I have not foregotten yo<sup>u</sup>, and for that I meane to bestowe a Company on yo<sup>u</sup> in her Ma<sup>ts</sup> paye yo<sup>u</sup> may not fayle but to make yo<sup>r</sup> present repaire unto me wheresoever yo<sup>u</sup> shall heare of my beinge to theis partes, Bringinge w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> one hundred tall men, well furnyshed, yf yo<sup>u</sup> cannot make up the full nomber, bringe w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>u</sup> as manny as yo<sup>u</sup> have w<sup>th</sup> all spedē. And yf yo<sup>u</sup> can alight on eny pece of service in yo<sup>r</sup> waye, I doubt not, but yo<sup>u</sup> will perforne y<sup>t</sup> to the uttermost. In yo<sup>r</sup> travell y<sup>t</sup> shalbe lawfull for yo<sup>u</sup> to take meate and dryncke for one nyght, and a breakefast, in ech place, in competent manner, not usinge of extorcōn or other oppression on the countrey. Yf yo<sup>u</sup> have not sufficient men already to make up yo<sup>r</sup> company rayse the reste of them, some in the Countye of Kilkenny, and other some in the Countye of TypparYe, as formerlie I told yo<sup>u</sup>. Use all expedicōn herein soe as yo<sup>u</sup> maye overtakē me, in theis partes, whereby yo<sup>u</sup> may receave ympreste to furnyshe yo<sup>r</sup>self and companye. Geaven at the Nace, the 4 of September 1598.

“ THOMAS ORMÖDE OSS.

“ Yo<sup>r</sup> pardon is out under the brod seale, and to thende yo<sup>r</sup> men may com the quieter thorowe the contry w<sup>th</sup>out extorcōn or complaint, I wrote to Robert Rothe, at Kilkenny, to deliv<sup>r</sup> youe fortie pounds, receving yo<sup>r</sup> acquittance for the same; when youe receive the money of him, com away pntly.”

Mr. Caulfield also contributed some other curious documents, one being an inventory delivered in upon oath before the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, of the goods of Edmond Ronayne, deceased, 12th August, 1665, exhibiting the prices of various articles at that period; others were deeds indented between the King's Commissioners and the freeholders of various baronies in the county of Cork, in the year 1604, for arranging a composition in lieu of cess. The inventory is as follows:—

" An Inventorie delivered in apon oath before the right Reverend ffather  
in God, Eduard, Lord Bishopp of Corcke, Cloyne, and Rosse, of the  
goods of Edmond Ronayne Deceased, By Patricke Rice, this twelveth  
day of August 1665, according and pursueant to the Administacon  
granted unto the said Rice of the said goods.

ffirst a Cubord Carplet valued sixpence . . . . .	vi <sup>d</sup>
Item. a redd Table Cloath valued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, One old Irish Mantle vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, An old Sarge hood vallued one shilling sixpence . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, Nyne bandles of redd frize vallued sixpence p bandle comes to . . . . .	iiii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Redd ould pettycoate and another black pettycoate vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, a small payre of scales vallued six pence . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, An old chest vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, a small brass Chafingdish valued six pence . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, An old Trucke vallued one shilling . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup>
,, a brodd Cloth wastcoate and pettycoate vallued eight shillings . . . . .	viii <sup>s</sup>
,, a branched stiffe pettycoate vallued six shillings . . . . .	vi <sup>s</sup>
,, an ould black Clooke vallued seaven shillings . . . . .	vii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Sarge wastcoate vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, An ould Table Lynen Cloath vallued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Lynen Table Cloath vallued seaven shillings . . . . .	vii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Lynen Table Cloath vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, Three payre of Canvas sheets vallued eighteen shil- lings . . . . .	xviii <sup>s</sup>
,, Three Lynen sheets valued four shillings & six pence . . . . .	iiii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, Six yards and half of french course Canvas at 9 <sup>d</sup> p yard . . . . .	iiii <sup>s</sup> x $\frac{1}{2}$
,, a Canvas Table Cloath vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, An old lynen Table Cloath vallued six pence . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup>
,, A short Canvas Table Cloath vallued one shilling . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Small Lynen Table Cloath vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, Seaven Canvas Napkins & five Course Lynen Nap- kins vallued two shillings & six pence . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, Nyne worn Lynen Napkins vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Cotten Towell vallued six pence . . . . .	vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Lynen pettycoate, vallued three shillings & six pence . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Chest vallued two shillings and six pence . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Dozen & half of wooden Trenchers vallued nine pence . . . . .	ix <sup>d</sup>
,, An earthen dish and two earthen Juggs vallued one shilling and six pence . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Bedsteed & Cord vallued three shillings & six pence . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, a Suite of Broad Cloath & Coate vallued three pounds . . . . .	iii <sup>l</sup>
,, a Suite & Coate of Stuff vallued one pound tenn shillings . . . . .	x <sup>l</sup>

Item. a pair of Gloves vallued one shilling . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup>
,, An old course Broad Cloath suite vallued ten shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, a Suite of Curtens & valance vallued one pound . . . . .	i <sup>li</sup>
,, a worn hatt vallued eight shillings . . . . .	viii <sup>s</sup>
,, An ould Lynen hand apron and napkins, vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, A curlelack hood & a Taffatie scarffe vallued eight shillings . . . . .	viii <sup>s</sup>
,, a looking glass vallued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, a Chest vallued five shillings . . . . .	v <sup>s</sup>
,, An old Bed stead vallued one shilling & six pence . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, Three long formes vallued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, Three joint Stooles vallued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, Two long tables & one round table vallued Tenn shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, A Settle vallued six shillings . . . . .	vi <sup>s</sup>
,, two Iron grates & backe one pound . . . . .	i <sup>li</sup>
,, Two great spitts & one small spitt vallued four shillings . . . . .	iv <sup>s</sup>
,, A payre of hand Irons vallued three shillings . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup>
,, A grid Iron and pott hookes vallued one shilling . . . . .	i <sup>s</sup>
,, A payre of Iron Racks vallued seaven shillings . . . . .	vii <sup>s</sup>
,, A Brass pann vallued tenn shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, Two Iron potts vallued six shillings . . . . .	vi <sup>s</sup>
,, A Coope vallued four shillings & six pence . . . . .	iii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, An ould hutche vallued five shillings . . . . .	v <sup>s</sup>
,, A soiled cupbord vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, A Bedd and a Caddow, A payre of Curtains with their valens, vallued five shillings . . . . .	v <sup>s</sup>
,, A payre of virginalls vallued ten shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, Elleaven pewter dishes a salt seller & two sawcers} & three chamber potts, pewter flagon, two pints, } a Cnaggin & a Quarte vallued in all one pound }	i <sup>li</sup>
,, five Brass Candlesticks & one Iron Candlestick vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, four quintin halfe shirtz vallued fourteen shillings . . . . .	xiiii <sup>s</sup>
,, four whole Shirtz vallued eight shillings . . . . .	viii <sup>s</sup>
,, A payer of Britchez & Cassock vallued five shillings . . . . .	v <sup>s</sup>
,, A hatt vallued six shillings . . . . .	vi <sup>s</sup>
,, A small Trunck vallued two shillings . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup>
,, two old Suites of Cloathes vallued tenn shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, one old Suite of figured satin vallued tenn shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, five Canvas Sheetes & a Lynen Smock vallued sixteen shillings . . . . .	xvi <sup>s</sup>
,, a Silver beere & a Silver dram Cup vallued thirty shillings . . . . .	i <sup>li</sup> x <sup>s</sup>
,, A Chest vallued two shillings and six pence . . . . .	ii <sup>s</sup> vi <sup>d</sup>
,, A payre of whole silke Stockins a pair of halfe Silke stockens a payre of half stockins of wostead . . . . .	. . . . .
,, A half dozen of old bands . . . . .	. . . . .

Item. a Cabinet vallued ten shillings . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup>
,, several Bundles of papers . . . . .	
,, A stand dish of Ink with a drawing Box . . . . .	
,, A Brass small aqua vitæ pott . . . . .	
,, An old violl . . . . .	
,, An old feather bedd . . . . .	
,, An old paire of bootes and spurs . . . . .	
,, An old fashion waste belt . . . . .	
,, The said Rice is given to understand that the said Edmond Ronayne had att the tyme of his death in Blarney where he dyed, a watch, a sword & a suite of apparell which he last wore before he dyed which are not come to the hands of the said Adm̄trator.	
,, Several printed old books . . . . .	

The remaining items in this inventory are mentions of the deeds of his personal estate, leases, arrear of rent, and similar entries, &c. One item of forty-six pounds sterling, owed by Andrew Rice, who had fled the kingdom as an insolvent, is termed a “desperate debt.” Much controversy at this time appears also to have existed as to the bounds of Carrigdiganig and Douglone, now the estate of Thomas Ronayne Sarsfield, Esq., D. L.

The following paper was then submitted to the Meeting.

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## THE ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES OF YOUGHAL.—No. II.

THE NUNNERY, OR CHAPEL OF SAINT ANNE'S.

THE FRANCISCAN FRIARY, COMMONLY CALLED THE SOUTH ABBEY.

THE DOMINICAN FRIARY, COMMONLY CALLED THE NORTH ABBEY.

BY THE REV. SAMUEL HAYMAN, A. B.

THE Anglo-Norman adventurers, to whom (as we have seen in our former paper) the erection of the great pile of the Collegiate Church of Youghal should be ascribed, did not relax their hold on the district won by their prowess. As a further step to secure themselves in possessing their sea-port at the mouth of the Blackwater, the town was newly peopled from England. A colony, consisting of men-at-arms, traffickers, and other adventurers, was now introduced from Bristol; while, to promote trade, and insure the safety of mariners frequenting the harbour of Youghal, a light-house was erected, and ingeniously placed under the management of the inmates of—

THE NUNNERY, OR CHAPEL OF SAINT ANNE'S,—an institution